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GENERAL

1. Embassy Moscow's estimate of recent Soviet tactics--US Embassy Moscow takes issue with the recent estimates of certain western European political circles that the Kremlin's current tactics are motivated by a desire to force the west to dissipate its strength in armaments. The Embassy reasons that Soviet leaders must certainly realize the effect of armament programs in increasing the over-all productive plant of the western European nations. The Embassy further disagrees with the assumption that the USSR is not prepared for and does not expect hostilities for an indefinite period. Although in the Embassy's view Soviet leaders do not want war and estimate that neither does the US, the Soviet Union would not have followed its recent course regarding Berlin had it not thought itself prepared to face hostilities if necessary. The Embassy adds that Soviet leaders may have estimated such an eventuality as unlikely, but that they must have considered it a definite possibility.

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2. Jewish attack on Jerusalem feared--US Consulate General Jerusalem considers that there now exists the possibility of the Arab-Jewish conflict in the Negeb shifting to Jerusalem. [redacted] state that the Jews are concentrating troops in the Jerusalem area and that Brigadier Clubb Pasha, commander of the Arab Legion, has expressed great concern over the possibility of a Jewish attack. The Consulate General further considers that immediate UN action is most important in order to forestall further Jewish military action which might lead to the collapse of UN efforts in Palestine. The Consulate General urges that the Provisional Government of Israel be told unequivocally that Israel will derive no political advantage from military defeats they may inflict on the Arab armies.

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3. Czechoslovak miners urged to aid French strikers --US Embassy Prague reports a widespread Communist campaign urging Czechoslovak miners to give financial aid to striking French miners. Although Czechoslovak miners are reportedly already pledging percentages of their earnings, no dependable data is available on the extent of financial assistance contemplated. The Embassy believes the drive is motivated more by a Communist desire to "educate" Czech workers in Socialist solidarity than to raise funds for the French strikers.

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